



STATE OF UTAH
NATURAL RESOURCES
Oil, Gas & Mining

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m/047/010

February 7, 1985

TO: The Board of Oil, Gas and Mining SCL
FROM: Susan C. Linner, Reclamation Biologist/Permit Supervisor
RE: Executive Summary, American Gilsonite Company, Bonanza
Operations, ACT/047/010, Uintah County, Utah

Attached for your information is an Executive Summary for American Gilsonite Company's Bonanza Operations. Public notice has been given and the 30 day public comment period will expire prior to the February 28, 1985 Board Hearing date.

The Division recommends that the Board concur with the proposed \$500,000 surety bond.

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Mine Name: <u>Bonanza Operations</u>	I. D. No.: <u>ACT/047/010</u>
Operator: <u>American Gilsonite Company</u>	County: <u>Uintah</u>
<u>Bonanza, Utah 84008</u>	New/Existing: <u>Existing</u>
	Mineral Ownership: <u>Private</u>
Telephone: <u>(801) 789-7798 (Chevron Res.)</u>	Surface Ownership: <u>Fed, St, Private</u>
Contact Person: <u>LeRoy Fyock</u>	Lease No.(s): <u>N/A</u>
Life of Mine: <u>30 years</u>	Permit Term: <u>10 years</u>
Legal Description: <u>See Attached</u>	

Mineral(s) to be Mined: Gilsonite
Mining Methods: underground modified room and pillar
Acres to be Disturbed: 102 acres
Present Land Use: Mining, wildlife and livestock grazing
Postmining Land Use: Wildlife and livestock grazing
Variances from Reclamation Standards (Rule M-10) Granted: None

Soils and Geology:

Soil Description: Soils are loamy and generally low in organic matter. Depth of soil material suitable for reclamation averages 5.5 inches.
pH: 7.8 - 8.7
Special Handling Problems: None
Geology Description: Ore is up to 1000 feet below surface; waste rock is typically of Duchesne River Formation or Uintah Formation

Hydrology:

Ground Water Description: Perched ground water has been encountered during mining. This is pumped to the surface and discharged as per NPDES permits.
Surface Water Description: Coyote Wash supports an ephemeral stream, which only flows for one or two months during spring runoff.
Water Monitoring Plan: Water to be discharged is monitored for compliance with NPDES permit.

Ecology:

Vegetation Type(s); Dominant Species: Shadscale, sagebrush, pinyon-juniper; Utah juniper, pinyon pine, black sage, shadscale, Western wheatgrass, squirreltail
Percent Surrounding Vegetative Cover: 4.3% - 25.85% (average 14.99%)
Wildlife Concerns: None
Surface Facilities: Each mine site contains facilities, usually hoist house, head frame, compressor, supply building. Processing and storage facilities are centralized.
Mining and Reclamation Plan Summary: See attached

Surety:

Amount: \$500,000
Form: Surety Bond
Renewable Term: 5 years

LEGAL DESCRIPTION

T 8 S, R 17 E Section 32
T 9 S, R 17 E Sections 5, 4
T 2 S, R 2 E Sections 18, 19, 20
T 8 S, R 24 E Section 32
T 9 S, R 23 E Sections 1, 10, 12, 15, 25
T 9 S, R 24 E Sections 1, 2, 3, 7, 12, 15, 16, 17, 22, 23,
24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 32, 33,
34, 35, 36
T 9 S, R 25 E Sections 7, 8, 15, 16, 17, 21, 22, 23, 29,
30, 31, 32, 33
T 10 S, R 22 E Section 24
T 10 S, R 23 E Sections 28, 30, 32, 34
T 10 S, R 24 E Sections 1, 2, 3
T 10 S, R 25 E Section 6
T 11 S, R 23 E Sections 1, 2, 12
T 11 S, R 24 E Sections 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 14, 15, 16, 17,
20, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 30, 32
T 11 S, R 25 E Sections 20, 21, 30, 32
T 12 S, R 24 E Section 4
T 12 S, R 25 E Sections 4, 5, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 24

OPERATION AND RECLAMATION PLAN

During Operations:

1. Amerian Gilsonite operates approximately 30 one-acre mine sites on their properties. Facilities at each mine site include a headframe, hoist house, compressor, and storage areas. Mine sites are fenced. The life of each individual minesite varies between 5 and 10 years depending on the type of ore and market conditions.
2. Gilsonite ore is process and blended in facilities at Bonanza. The ore is trucked to and from the processing plant.
3. Sediment ponds are constructed on sites where water is produced in the mine. American Gilsonite Company has an NPDES discharge permit to discharge this water into natural drainages after proper settling and gravel filtration occurs.
4. Topsoil has been salvaged on recently disturbed mine sites, and is protected. American Gilsonite Company has implemented a series of test plots to determine how best to reclaim areas of previous disturbance, some of which have gilsonite fines mixed into the soil.

Following operations:

1. Reclamation will begin within 6 months of abandonment of individual mine sites, during the fall of the year.
2. Sites will be ripped and recontoured. Slopes will not exceed 2H:1V.
3. Soils will be analyzed at the time of reclamation to determine their suitability for supporting vegetation. Soil amendments will be made based on results of this analysis.
4. Mulch may be used, depending on the results of the test plots. Seeding may be done by broadcast or drilling methods.
5. All ponds will be reclaimed as above and left non-impounding.

The Division of Oil, Gas and Mining plans to approve the permit with the following stipulations:

Stipulation M-10(14)-1-TLP

Neither topsoil redistribution nor preparation of insitu substitute materials shall be done prior to one month before actual seeding. The operator shall refrain from any manipulation of the above materials when said materials are at moisture levels which increase the likelihood of damage due to compaction.

Stipulation M-10(14)-2-TLP

A survey shall be conducted to determine the average thickness and volume of insitu (substitute) material available at each individual minesite. Results shall be recorded on the individual mine site inventories in Appendix 1. Results and updated inventory sheets shall be provided to the Division by October 1, 1985

Stipulation M-10(14)-3-TLP

Should American Gilsonite elect to exploit a borrow area for the purpose of obtaining material for fire control a complete soils and vegetation plan shall be provided for such a revision. This plan shall be submitted for review at least sixty (60) days prior to intended use.